

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the instant application is respectfully requested. The present Response to Restriction Requirement is responsive to the Office Action of May 25, 2006, in which claims 1-36 are presently pending. A restriction requirement has been made as to two allegedly separate inventions under 35 U.S.C. 121. The Applicants provisionally elect claims 1-26 and 29-36 with traverse.

The Applicants respectfully traverse the Election/Restriction requirement for the following reasons:

The restriction of claims 27 and 28 (Group II, classified in class 707, subclass 103Z) as a separately identified invention is improper. Claims 27 and 28 should be examined with claims 1-26 and 29-36 (Group I, classified in class 707, subclass 102). The inventions described in Groups I and II are not separately usable. Claims 27 and 28 recite system elements usable in implementing the processes described, e.g., in claim 1. Claim 1 recites a method for providing a dynamic multi-dimensional commodity modeling process, while claim 27 recites a system for utilizing the dynamic multi-dimensional commodity modeling process. Claim 28 further characterizes the dynamic multi-dimensional commodity model component as recited in claims 1 and 9. Accordingly, claims 1-26, 29-36 and claims 27, 28 are not distinct subcombinations that are separately usable. For at least these reasons, the Applicants submit that the Restriction requirement is improper. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the Restriction is respectfully requested.

The Applicants reserve the right to file a divisional application directed to any non-elected subject matter in the present application. If the Examiner has any queries regarding the instantly submitted preliminary amendment and response, the Applicants' attorney respectfully requests the courtesy of a telephone conference to discuss the same.

For the above stated reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance. No new matter has been entered and no additional fees are believed to be required. However, if there are any associated or additional charges with respect to this Response or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 50-0510.

Respectfully submitted,

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